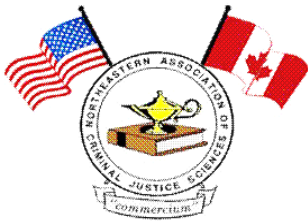


# NEACJS REPORTER



## Northeast Association of Criminal Justice Sciences 46th annual meeting **A System in Crisis:** **Tackling pressing issues in the criminal justice**

### Remembering A NEACJS

#### Leader



Dr. Edward Thibault

Dr. Edward Thibault, passed away on Saturday, September 18th. Ed was a past-President in NEACJS (1985-1986) and a founding father of CJEANYS. A real pioneer from the 60's and birthing CJ programs in the northeast area. He received the Founders Award from NEACJS in 2000 and was the recipient of the Lewis Award from CJEANYS.

"In the Fall of 1995, when I was in my first semester teaching CJ at CCC I was recruited to join CJEANYS and be the Region 5 VP (held position for 25 years minus two presidencies) and attend the Fall conference. I was very nervous being brand new in teaching CJ full-time and somewhat anxious meeting all the "big wigs" of the Executive Board. But, at the first meeting Dr. Ed Thibault (about 10 inches shorter than me by the way) looks up at me and says, "you are missing something Mockry". We both had suits on, and he then took his CJEANYS pin off his lapel and reached up to put his pin on my lapel. To that he stated, "there, now it's official being in our organization". If you met Ed, you would remember him... he was quite the character!"

~Submitted by: May Delaney, Worcester State University and John Mockry, Clinton Community College

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### President's corner

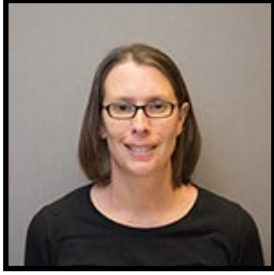
Dear NEACJS members and guests,

I am sure that I speak for the entire NEACJS Executive Board when I say that we are so excited for this summer's conference in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Last year's virtual conference was nice. It gave us an opportunity to see each other in the only way that was feasible for most of us. It was not the same, though, and I am so happy to get back to our in-person conferences. Fortunately, 2022 has brought us widespread vaccine availability and the lifting of most college and university travel restrictions. The NEACJS faithful who made it to Las Vegas for ACJS were able to reconnect at our table in the exhibit hall and at our reception. I would like to thank our wonderful NEACJS authors who donated books for the free book raffle and to the members who donated their time (and took the very long walk to the exhibit hall) to work at our outreach table. I also want to thank our friend, Ellen Boyne from Routledge, for donating NEACJS-authored books for our raffle and Jane Tucker, our Treasurer, for making a basket to raffle for our scholarship fund.

Since this is my last (and come to think of it, first!) president's column in the newsletter, I can't think of a better way to use this space than to thank people for their hard work in keeping this organization going through the pandemic. Jane Tucker (Treasurer) and Shavonne Arthurs (Secretary) do so much for NEACJS twelve months a year, and they have been incredibly patient with me and my incessant questions. Samantha Gavin (1<sup>st</sup> VP) and Jennifer Boyer (2<sup>nd</sup> VP) are doing great work, and I am happy to be passing the baton on to them. Cassandra Reyes and Michele Bratina have served as wonderful liaisons to ACJS in their roles as our Region I Trustees. May Delaney has worked hard to put together this newsletter. There are so many others to thank, but I have been given a word limit for this column. I will end this by thanking all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as NEACJS President.

Christine Tartaro, NEACJS President

# NEACJS REPORTER

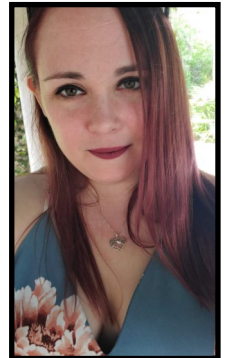


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Editor: Aimée "May" Delaney, Worcester State University

**NEACJS Mission Statement**

The Northeastern Association of Criminal Justice Sciences is the official regional organization of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. It is an organization of scholars and criminal justice practitioners dedicated to improving scholarship, service, and practice in criminal justice. Benefits of membership include the opportunity to build networks with criminal justice scholars and practitioners throughout the Northeast region through participation in the annual conference and other activities, reduced conference registration fees, access to the on-line membership directory as well as late breaking news on events, job opportunities, and other items of interest through our optional email list service.

**Goals and Objectives**

- To promote the communication and dissemination of information of interest among members, other associations of education, and agencies of the criminal justice system.
- To develop an overall philosophy and standards of quality education in the administration of justice.
- To encourage both limited and long term planning and research in the criminal justice system.
- To establish a vehicle capable of providing technical assistance and evaluative services to agencies of the criminal justice system.

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**Northeastern Association of Criminal Justice Sciences**

**Want to join our fun? Become a Member/ Renew your Membership**

Visit <https://www.neacjs.org/> and click on “join NEACJS” from the menu.

**Type of Membership and fees:**

Regular member	\$44.06	Student member	\$22.85
Institutional membership	\$81.20	Life membership	425.98

**Connecticut-Delaware-District of Columbia-Maine-Maryland-Massachusetts-New Brunswick-New Hampshire-New Jersey-New York-Newfoundland-Nova Scotia-Ontario-Pennsylvania-Prince Edward Island-Quebec Rhode Island-Vermont**



NEACJS Fellow Award: Aimée X. Delaney, Worcester State University

Dr. Delaney is well published, having contributions in *Criminal Justice Review*, *Contemporary Perspectives in Family Violence*, *International Criminal Justice Review*, *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, and *Sexual Harassment and Misconduct: An Encyclopedia*. Dr. Delaney's most recently published works include "The victimizing effect of violent socialization: Intimate partner use of coercive sexual practices transnationally" and "Intersections of childhood victimization experiences, gender, and power: The makings for sexual coercion?". Her research was published in her book, *Norms of Violence: Violent Socialization Processes and the Spillover Effect for Youth Crime* (Routledge, 2021). Dr. Delaney's numerous awarded grants are especially noted, including the Drug Free Community Grants with two community coalitions. Dr. Delaney has been invited to numerous talks and lectures. Dr. Delaney is an accomplished scholar, teacher, and practitioner who has made significant contributions to criminal justice.

*Submitted by: Shavonne Arthurs, Seton Hall University*

The Founders Award: Michele Bratina, West Chester University

Dr. Bratina has a record of ongoing service to the Northeastern Association of Criminal Justice Sciences. She served as the NEACJS President (2017-2018). Dr. Bratina currently serves as Co-Chair of the Professional Development Committee for the Annual Meeting (2020-2021). Dr. Bratina volunteered to offer training in Mental Health First Aid at the 2021 Annual Meeting. In addition, Dr. Bratina co-chairs the Criminal Justice Policy Review (CJPR)/NEACJS Policy Paper Award Committee, serving in this role since 2018. Dr. Bratina served on the Program Committee for the Annual Meeting (2019-2020) and was Chair of the NEACJS Awards Committee (2014-2015). In each of these roles, Dr. Bratina has represented NEACJS professionally and competently. These various service commitments attest to her willingness to serve the membership and help strengthen and guide the organization. It is clear that she is committed to the organization and its members.

*Submitted by: Alida V. Merlo, Indiana University of Pennsylvania*



Freda Adler and Gerhard O. W. Mueller Innovator Award:  
David Mackey, Plymouth State University

Dr. Mackey served 15 years with the US Army Reserve and New Hampshire Army National Guard, including positions as a Military Police Team Leader (for a combat support Military Police Detachment), Armorer, Physical Security Officer, and Equal Opportunity Unit Representative. He also worked as a residential caseworker for Key Program, Inc., a coed residential facility. Dr. Mackey is currently a Professor of Criminal Justice at Plymouth State University. His cross between scholarly and practical experience is clearly visible in his research. Dr. Mackey's most recent publications include "Making methods relevant: Undergraduate research methods and the content analysis project. Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Innovative Pedagogy," "Rational-based policies and irrational actors: An examination of recent tragedies at domestic military installations, houses of worship, and schools," and the edited book, *Society, ethics, and the law: A text reader*. It is evident throughout Dr. Mackey's extensive work the devotion he has to creating sound an innovative pedagogy in the classroom, while at the same time spreading his wealth of practical knowledge through research and extracurricular experiences with students.

*Submitted by: Shavonne Arthurs, Seton Hall University*

Roslyn Muraskin Emerging Scholar Award  
and  
CJPR – NEACJS Policy Paper Award

**Nathan E. Kruis**, Pennsylvania State University -Altoona



Here is the abstract for Dr. Kruis' policy paper:

Race and Policing: Exploring the Medial Effects of Police Performance and Police Legitimacy on Citizen Race and Disposition Toward Compliance and Cooperation with Law Enforcement

Public perceptions of police are essential to effective policing. Unfortunately, police-public relationships have been dampened in recent years, and research suggests that many members of minority communities now have unfavorable views of police officers. Prior research has also indicated that these views influence citizens' willingness to comply with police officers during police-citizen encounters and assist law enforcement officers in solving crimes. Contributing to this line of scholarly research, the current study used data collected from a representative sample of 522 Pennsylvania residents to measure public perceptions of police performance, police legitimacy, and attitudes toward compliance and cooperation with police officers. Analyses focused on exploring racial differences in attitudes, and then testing the medial effects of perceptions of police performance and police legitimacy on the relationship between respondent race and attitudes toward compliance with police officers and anticipated cooperation with law enforcement personnel. Results indicated that minority group members held more negative views of police in their community and indicated having less favorable dispositions toward compliance and cooperation with law enforcement. However, sequential mediation analyses revealed that perceptions of police performance and police legitimacy fully mediated racial differences in self-reported compliance with officers, and partially mediated respondents' willingness to cooperate with officers.

Co-authored with: Richard H. Donahue, RAND Corporation; Nicholas Glunt, Penn State Altoona; Nicholas J. Rowland, Penn State Altoona

## David Orrick Student Paper Awards

**Graduate Student:** Laurie T. Becker, Roger Williams University

Police perceptions of police-involved overdose outreach program effectiveness

Faculty sponsor: **Sean Varano**

**Undergraduate Student:** (no award in 2021)

Michael Israel Graduate Student Scholarship

(no award in 2021)

Gerhard O. W. Mueller & Freda Adler Undergraduate Student Scholarship

**Payton Perry, Penn State Altoona**

NEACJS awarded scholarships to students pursuing degrees in criminal justice/criminology:

**Congratulations to all the NEACJS awards recipients!**

**Curry College****CJ Professors Pilot Law Enforcement “Active Bystandership” Course**

Several Criminal Justice students spent two Saturdays with Professors Scott Allen, **Jennifer Balboni**, Willie Bradley and Mike Sampson on a short course: **Law Enforcement Bystander Preparation, Ethics, and Wellness**. The course grew out of discussions by the professors about how to best prepare our students-- pre-academy training-- to usher in a new age of ethical policing during this period of reform in the field. Inspired by the training Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) from Georgetown Law (for which Mike Sampson is currently a trainer), this course focuses on empowering students to be prepared to intervene *before* situations escalate—to protect both the public and fellow officers. The course also highlighted understanding trauma and wellness as critical components of strengthening humanity in law enforcement. Professors Sampson, Bradley, and Allen, all veteran officers, have experience leading police forces in a variety of different communities (State Police, Boston Police, East Bridgewater). Students practiced the active bystander strategies in a variety of engaging role plays and scenarios— drawn both from college life and in potential future law enforcement situations. Community policing and procedural justice approaches were emphasized and practiced, helping students build their skills in communicating and intervening in difficult, ethical, and consequential situations. The students finished the course and expressed feelings of being inspired to be the positive change in policing.

*Submitted by: Jennifer Balboni*

**West Chester University**

During fall 2021, **Cassandra L. Reyes** and two of her Animal Cruelty course students met with Pennsylvania State Senator Carolyn Comitta’s Constituent Services Specialist, Julia Loving, to discuss the Humane Society of the United States-Pennsylvania’s (HSUS-PA) priority pending legislation and the Pennsylvania State House and Senate’s Animal Protection Caucus. This was a part of the Animal Cruelty course’s ongoing partnership with the HSUS-PA and its Humane Lobby Week activities. On another occasion, Cassandra and five of her Animal Cruelty course Students met with Pennsylvania State Representative Dianne Herrin, to discuss the Humane Society of the United States-Pennsylvania’s priority pending legislation, the Pennsylvania State House and Senate’s Animal Protection Caucus, and ending wild-life killing contests in Pennsylvania. This was a part of the Animal Cruelty course’s ongoing partnership with the HSUS-PA and its Humane Lobby Week activities.

Meetings with Pennsylvania State Legislators and their Staff during the HSUS-PA Humane Lobby Week during the fall semesters are a part of the Animal Cruelty course as the students are provided with several opportunities to learn about how laws are created through the legislative process. They also apply what they learn in the course to real-world settings as they advocate for pending anti-animal cruelty legislation on the Pennsylvania-state and Federal levels by writing letters to their elected officials and create videos about their chosen social media platforms.

*Submitted by: Cassandra L. Reyes*

**West Chester University****Criminal Justice Students Compete in Kansas City at ACJA Nationals**

The West Chester University's criminal justice students recently competed at the 85<sup>th</sup> Annual American Criminal Justice Association National Conference/Competition and came away champions in several categories. There are three divisions where students (undergraduate and graduate) and professionals can compete against other schools. Some of the University/Colleges participating at Nationals were from Florida, Texas, Indiana, Missouri, Kansas, and Virginia. The competition includes knowledge exams in criminal law, corrections, policing, and juvenile justice. The new exams added for 2022 were Homeland Security and Forensic Psychology. There are also mock crime scenes, a physical agility/fitness test, and a firearms competition for those schools who want to shoot pistols. For more information, visit [www.acjalae.org](http://www.acjalae.org).

**West Chester University placed in the following categories:**

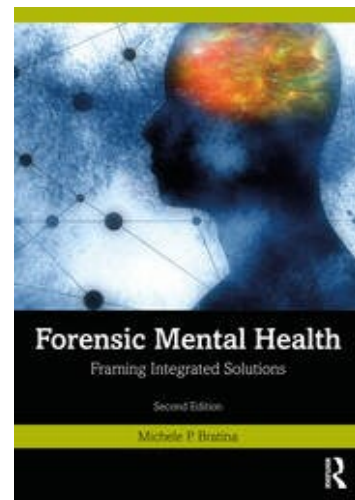
- 1<sup>st</sup> place (Upper Division) Juvenile Justice
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place (Upper Division) Corrections
- 1<sup>st</sup> place (Upper Division) Forensic Psychology
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place (Upper Division) Crime Scene
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place (Upper Division) Crime Scene
- 1<sup>st</sup> place (Lower Division) Policing
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place (Lower Division) Juvenile Justice
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place (Lower Division) Corrections
- 1<sup>st</sup> place (Lower Division) Team Firearms
- 1<sup>st</sup> place female (18-25 yrs old) individual fitness/agility
- 1<sup>st</sup> place male (18-25 yrs old) individual fitness/agility
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place male (35+ yrs old) individual fitness/agility
- Spirit Award – for Best Overall Chapter (School) at Nationals



*Submitted by:* Chris Przemieniecki



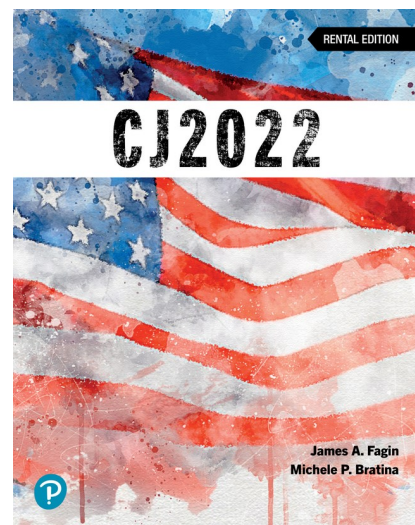
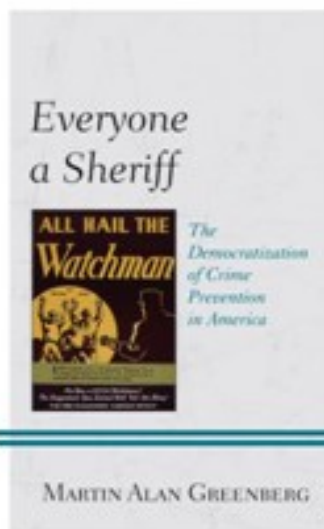
Thank you to everyone who submitted information, news, stories, and photos to this newsletter.  
This publication would not be a success without all your contributions! ~ May Delaney



Abdel-Salam, S., Antonio, M. E., Bratina, M. P., & Kilmer, A. (Forthcoming, 2022). Rapport and relationship building in a therapeutic community: Examining the dynamic between correctional officers and incarcerated persons. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*.

Tucker, J. M., Bratina, M. P., & Caprio, B. (Forthcoming, 2022). Understanding the effect of media and social media on first responders. *Crisis, Stress, and Human Resilience: An International Journal*.

Ostrowe, J.W. (2022). Intervention and Reform: Addressing Misconduct in American Police. (2022). In *Exploring Contemporary Police Challenges: A Global Perspective*. Eds. Ivkovic, S.K.; Maskaly, J.; Donner, C.M.; Mravic, I.C. & Das, D. Routledge, NY NY.





**Christine Tartaro**, Stockton University, is currently working with her county's Crisis Intervention Team Steering Committee to recruit police departments to get involved in CIT and collect evaluation data on the impact of CIT training on participants' attitudes about and knowledge of mental illness.

**Aimée X. Delaney**, Worcester State University, was awarded a \$250,000 Local Drug Crises Grant from the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) with the Raymond Coalition for Youth to research and implement preventative measures that will de-normalize youth substance use in any form and leads to the reduction of misuse and abuse. The mixed methodology includes surveys, interviews, and evaluation.



**Michele Bratina**, West Chester University, was the 2022 recipient of a West Chester University Provost Research Grant Award (\$10,000.00) to support research on law enforcement wellness in Pennsylvania.

**Jane M. Tucker**, West Chester University, was selected as a recipient of the College of Business and Public Management research scholarship (\$2000.00) for her recent study on *The lived experiences of women who grew up in foster care: A phenomenological study*.

**Cassandra L. Reyes**, West Chester University, and **Aimée X. Delaney**, Worcester State University, presented their paper entitled, "Professional Socialization Regarding Electronic Devices in the Classroom" at the Academy of Criminal Justice Science's Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, NV March 2022.

**Kevin Courtright**, Edinboro University, is teaming up with Gary Cornelius, an EUP alum ('74) of the criminal justice department, to produce a 3rd edition of the very popular book *The art of the con: Avoiding offender manipulation* for the American Correctional Association (ACA). Work on the revision will begin in Spring of 2023. The first two editions of the book were authored by Cornelius.

**Kevin Courtright**, Edinboro University, was selected as the 2021 Faculty Member of the Year. The Faculty Award recognizes a faculty member who consistently exhibits exemplary teaching skills, presents a well-developed personal philosophy of teaching, and demonstrates mastery of their discipline. He was publicly recognized in a video presentation.



Kevin was interviewed recently for the *NVIVO Podcast Series - Between the Data*. This podcast series talks to qualitative researchers (who use NVIVO qualitative data analysis software) about their innovative research methods, applied practices and personal insights. His interview (Episode 36: Making Research Methods Relevant to Undergraduate Students) can be found by linking to: [Resources for Data Analysis Software Users | NVivo \(qsrinternational.com\)](https://www.qsrinternational.com/resources-for-data-analysis-software-users)

**Christine Tartaro**, Stockton University, was approved for promotion to Distinguished Professor of Criminal Justice by the Board of Trustees this past December, to be effective September 1, 2022.

**Aimée X. Delaney**, Worcester State University, was elected to the position of Secretary for the *Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences*, for the 2022-2025 term.

**Michele P. Bratina**, West Chester University, was elected as the ACJS Regional Trustee, with service beginning in March of 2022.

Michele was invited to participate as a member of the Chester County, PA Crisis Continuum Steering Committee. The committee's charge is to prepare an information campaign for the national rollout of 988, the nation's first three-digit number for people experiencing a mental health crisis.

**Jane M. Tucker**, West Chester University, was recognized by the American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress and the National Center for Crisis Management as Certified in Emergency Crisis Response (C. E. C. R.). This designation was based on years of service on various CISM teams in Southeastern Pennsylvania, delivery of continuing education courses to emergency responders, and publication of studies on police officer stress.



Some of the attendees at the 2021 virtual NEACJS conference. The conference was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Cassandra L. Reyes**, West Chester University, received an award of recognition for her three years (2019-2022) of service as the Academy of Criminal Justice Science's (ACJS) Region One Trustee on March 18, 2022, during the ACJS Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, NV.

Cassandra finished her role as the West Chester University Criminal Justice Department Assessment Coordinator on May 12, 2022. She served in this role since August of 2010 and was the longest serving Assessment Coordinator in the College of Business and Public Management.

Cassandra was elected as the Vice Chair of the Academy of Criminal Justice Science's (ACJS) Victimology Section (2022-2024), appointed to the Academy of Criminal Justice Science's *ad hoc* Social Media Committee (2022-2023), and re-elected as the Vice President of the New Jersey Fraternal Order of Police Bicentennial Lodge #76 Lodge for her third term (2022-2023).

Cassandra creation of a new ACJS award, Academy Criminal Justice Agency or Non-Profit Organization Leadership and Innovation Award , was approved by the ACJS Executive Board in October 2021, and she was appointed to serve as the Chair for this new Committee (2022-2023). This inaugural award will be given out during the 2023 ACJS Annual Conference in National Harbor, MD.

Cassandra completed invited external program reviews of University of Houston-Clear Lake's Criminal Justice Graduate Program (June 2021) and Seton Hill University's Criminal Justice Program (February 2022).

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**Frank Plunkett**, Peirce College, Philadelphia PA: is a Doctoral Candidate at Capella University after several years of course work on a part-time basis. Frank is seeking a PhD in Criminal Justice with a specialization in Criminology. His research, which is expected to start this coming summer, will be on the lived experiences of non-White transgender police officers. The current title for his dissertation is: Exploring the lived experiences of non-White transgender police officers in the workplace.

**Maria L. Garase**, Mercyhurst University, was appointed associate dean of the Ridge College of Intelligence Studies and Applied Sciences in fall 2021. She is in her tenth year at Mercyhurst, and also is the graduate director of the Criminal Justice Administration program.

Maria became a member of the core leadership team of the Erie County Pardon Project (ECPP) in spring 2021, . The ECPP is a volunteer start-up that was formed to help people with criminal records navigate and apply for a state pardon in Pennsylvania. The Mercyhurst University Pardon Hub of the ECPP was one of the initial projects to be awarded funds to hire a Pardon Fellow to help with the coordination of the project. The ECPP is now one of ten counties in the state that works with the Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity (PLSE) to help individuals complete the pardon application process.

*The ACJS Executive Board made decisions during the 2022 Annual Meeting, based on the work on the Academic Review Committee and discussions that resulted. There will be an open roundtable at the NEACJS meeting in June, 2022 to discuss all of this!*

**A. Updated Standards** - The ACJS Academic Review Committee will be responsible for reviewing the current standards for academic programs during 2022, and will forward to the ACJS Executive Board a set of revised standards for approval. Once approved, these updated standards will be published on the ACJS website, and an announcement shared with the membership.

**B. Training Program Reviewers** - The Academic Review Committee will be responsible for organizing a 4-hour training workshop on the updated quality program standards at the 2023 ACJS annual meeting on Tuesday (parallel to the Assessment workshop) for any ACJS member (at the Associate or Full professor level) who would like to become an official program reviewer for the Academy. Existing certified program reviewers must also be retrained to ensure updates to the Quality Standards are disseminated to all.

**C. Directory of Trained Reviewers** - The Academic Review Committee will be responsible for assembling a directory of all trained program reviewers to be published on the ACJS website. The goal is to create a list of reviewers from different types of programs and institutions (public v private institutions; different sizes; Research 1, 2, teaching institutions) to assist in ‘matching’ reviewer(s) to programs.

**D. Selecting External Reviewers** - Programs that require external reviewers will have access to the directory of trained reviewers, and will select a reviewer (or more than one) to set up a contract to conduct a program review. The individual institution will be responsible for composing its self-study, selecting reviewer(s), negotiating the reviewer’s fee, making the travel arrangements, and handling any other arrangements. This process occurs outside the purview of the ACJS National Office.

**E. Review Process and Outcomes** - During the review, the ACJS program reviewer(s) will evaluate the program based on the ACJS Quality Standards, and determine whether the program ‘exceeds,’ ‘meets,’ or ‘fails to meet’ the individual Quality Standards. The external reviewers will write a detailed report outlining the program’s strengths and challenges to be addressed. (Reviewer will submit a draft of the report to the program contact for review to ensure that there do not exist errors or omissions). A copy of the final report will be submitted to the Chair of the ACJS Academic Review Committee. The ARC Chair will verify that the process was complete.

**F. ACJS Approval** - If the program is determined to “meet” or “exceed” the ACJS standards, the Chair will send the program a congratulatory letter that includes ***ACJS Approval of Compliance with the Quality Standards for Higher Education Programs***. (This approval will now serve as evidence of the Academy’s support instead of “certification”). This seal of approval will remain in effect for 7 years.

**G. ACJS Recognition** - The names of the programs that earn ***ACJS Approval*** will be published on the ACJS website, and will be announced/recognized at one of the ACJS ceremonies at the following year’s annual meeting.

Please direct questions or input to the Chair of the ACJS Academic Review Committee (2022-23),  
Jeff Bouffard at [lab088@iastate.edu](mailto:lab088@iastate.edu)